

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a method for detection and/or genetic analysis of HBV in a biological sample, comprising hybridizing the polynucleic acids of the sample with a combination of at least two nucleotide probes, with said combination hybridizing specifically to a mutant target sequence chosen from the HBV RT pol gene region and/or to a mutant target sequence chosen from the HBV preCore region and/or to a mutant target sequence chosen from the HBsAg region of HBV and/or to a HBV genotype-specific target sequence, with said target sequences being chosen from Figure 1, and with said probes being applied to known locations on a solid support and with said probes being capable of hybridizing to the polynucleic acids of the sample under the same hybridization and wash conditions, or with said probes hybridizing specifically with a sequence complementary to any of said target sequences, or a sequence where T of said target sequence is replaced by U; and detecting the hybrids formed; and inferring the HBV genotype and/or mutants present in said sample from the differential hybridization signal(s) obtained. The invention further relates to sets of nucleotide probes and possibly primers useful in said methods as well as to their use in a method for typing and/or detecting HBV and to assay kits using the same.